

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-9 are pending. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, in original claim 1. No new matter is added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

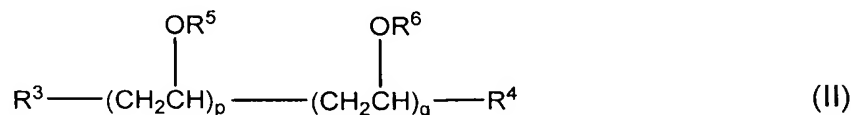
Objection to the Claims

The Office Action objects to claims 1-9 as including informalities. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended to obviate the objection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 6,248,256 to Nagao et al. ("Nagao"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 recites "[a] refrigerating oil composition, comprising: a refrigerant (A) comprising as a predominant component a C1-C8 hydrocarbon compound; and a base oil (B) comprising a polyvinyl ether represented by formula (II):



... wherein the composition satisfies the following conditions: (i) solubility of the refrigerant (A) in the base oil (B) is 40 mass% or less at 40°C and 1.2 MPa; and (ii) mixture viscosity of the refrigerating oil composition is 0.1 mm²/s or more at 90°C and 2.3 MPa" (emphasis added). Nagao does not disclose or suggest such a composition.

As indicated above, claim 1 is directed to a refrigerating oil composition including a refrigerant and a polyvinyl ether. The Office Action relies on Nagao for its disclosure of

refrigerating oil composition including a refrigerant and a polyalkylene glycol derivative.

See Office Action, page 2; Nagao, Abstract. However, nowhere does Nagao disclose a refrigerating oil composition including the polyvinyl ether of formula (II), as recited in claim

1. Accordingly, Nagao fails to disclose or suggest each and every feature of claim 1.

As explained, claim 1 is not anticipated by Nagao. Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and, thus, also are not anticipated by Nagao. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

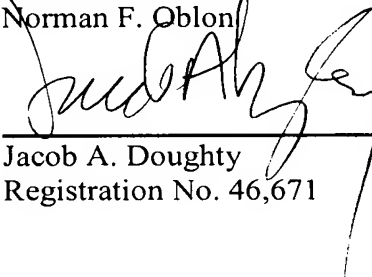
Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that claims 1-9 are in condition for allowance. Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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